

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>



Sunday 15th March 2026
Mothering Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Lent

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This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Aphro McCullough will preside and Revd. Adrian Jones will preach at a service of Holy Communion.

The Collect and Readings for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

1st Reading: Exodus 2.1-10;

Psalm 34.11-20;

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 1.3-7;

Gospel Reading: Luke 2.33-35

The Collect and Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Merciful Lord,
absolve your people from their offences,
that through your bountiful goodness
we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins
which by our frailty we have committed;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour,

who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16.1-13;

Psalm 23;

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5.8-14;

Gospel Reading: John 9.1-41

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me."

C.S. Lewis

Praying for each other: During March our prayer focus, as we bring all of our church family and friends before God over the year, is on those whose surnames begin with the letters I, J, K and L. Please pray that each person will have the faith and courage to keep going through present challenges, and experience an Easter that is full of resurrection hope.

Praying for the World: As world events continue to have significant impact on many people's ordinary lives, please pray that there will also be a wave of kindness and acts of care for our neighbours, both close to home and far away. Please pray that many, many 'ordinary' people will be inspired by hope to do the simple, caring things that other people need.

Praying for the Church: Please pray for our partner churches in the proposed Minster Community, especially this week for St Thomas's and All Saints in Wigston. On a wider level, please pray for the churches of the Anglican Communion and for a shared sense of joy and purpose as we prepare to formally welcome our new Archbishop, Dame Sarah Mullaly.

In particular please pray this week for **Dr John Chipolombwe, Eileen McKellican, June Rich and Katherine Swanson.**

Also, give thanks for those who are recovering and who have found God's peace.

Please remember those who have died recently, and pray for their families and friends. We also remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Dovedale Road & Dovedale Court flats.**

For further prayer requests which can be included in the weekly prayer list or anonymized and prayed for in private, please contact Revd Adrian adrian.jones@zoho.com or Jane administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Communion at Home: If you find that coming to church on Sundays or for our midweek services is just too difficult, you might appreciate the opportunity for receiving Communion at home occasionally. Please let Adrian know if this would be helpful and we'll see what can be arranged.

PLANNED GIVING SCHEME Regular giving is an integral part of our church life supporting our day-to-day costs, ministry and mission. A good way to achieve this is through a weekly envelope or a monthly bank standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Scheme details can be obtained from David Hunt, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk. If you

are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.

<https://givealittle.co/c/b277f14e-1e30-43b5-ac10-c822f0a70286>



Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Sunday April 19th at 12 noon.

Please make a note of this important date in the Church's year. If you would like to be nominated as a PCC member, Deanery Synod member or church warden, for election at the meeting, or would like to know more about these roles, please let me know. **Lesley Meakin (PCC secretary).**

ELECTORAL ROLL

If you are not currently on the electoral roll and would like to be entered on it, please complete a form which can be found on the notice board at the back of church, or contact Jane Wright administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk. Completed forms must be returned to Jane by 29th March if you wish to be entitled to vote at the APCM. The 'Notice of Revision' posted on the internal church noticeboard gives details of eligibility. Thank you.

Holbrook Oasis

at St. Guthlac's Church,

Wednesdays 1.30-3.30pm Companionship, Conversation, Refreshment, Relaxation Open to all, especially young families, people living alone, older persons and if you are new to Leicester.

Tea, coffee and cakes provided.

Email; churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 22 nd March | Morning Prayer & Church Club | Revd Cecilia Adjadje |
| 29 th March | BENEFICE SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S | |
| 5 th April | Easter Sunday Eucharist | Revd Cecilia Adjadje |
| 12 th April | All Age Worship | |
| Every Thursday at 9.30am | | Holy Communion |
| Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's | | Holy Communion |

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

There is an online Compline service every Wednesday 8.00 pm, **all are welcome**. You can also join using a phone. You can join the meeting from 7.50 pm.

On the computer click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

On the phone dial: 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions.

You will be asked for a meeting ID. Put **811 1818 3080** followed by **#**

Blessing your donations & the Collection Plate

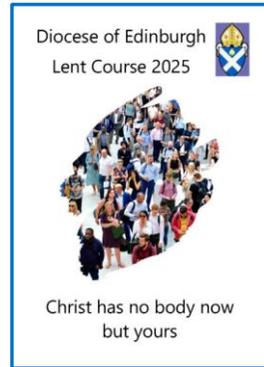
Now many people do planned-giving through their direct debit, it seems inappropriate to hand the collection plate round during a service. The collection plate now will be at the back of the church.

Please leave your donation as you come into the service.

A steward or member of the congregation will take up the plate to the altar for all donations to be blessed during the 3rd / offertory hymn or at a suitable point in non-Eucharist services.

LENT is here! You may well have noticed that Easter is ‘early’ this year, and so, therefore, is Lent! As usual, Christians are encouraged to remember through Holy Week and then celebrate on Easter Day itself – and the weeks of Lent before then are a significant time for pause, thought, reflection, thinking, discussion and growth in our Christian faith.

In our **Sunday services** during Lent we will be picking up themes from a course written for the Diocese of Edinburgh last year, called “**Christ has no body now but yours**”, which is based on the famous prayer by St Teresa of Avila. The course encourages us to think more deeply about our individual part in the Body of Christ and how we can better work out our faith in practical ways every day. Each Sunday service will be followed during the week by the chance to be part of a small group discussion around the same theme, with illustrations and questions to help us.



There will be (at least) two **Lent discussion groups**. One will run at St Mary’s Parish Centre (in the small Cottage/Welcome Room) on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am-noon, starting on 25th February for five weeks. The other group will run in the entrance area of St Guthlac’s on Thursday evenings at 7.30-9pm, starting on 26th February for five weeks. Please choose the best day and time for you – it doesn’t matter which church you feel part of most! The course book for both groups is identical and costs just £1.50 towards the printing.

I do hope that you will want to use this Lent as an intentional time for growing your faith, and that you’ll be able to join one of these groups. If you’re keen but the dates and times don’t work for you, please see me so that we can think about running an additional meeting.

Please sign the list at the back of either church to show that you’d like to be part of a midweek discussion group and that you’d like a booklet. See you there! *Adrian*

Update from Bishop Christopher about the Mobile Clinics in Malawi:

This is by way of an update and also to thank you to all at St Guthlac for your sustained generosity and awareness of all that the clinic and its outreach means.

With your unstinting help we have been able to do the following:

- continue vital monthly visits to the villages during the dry season.
- 10 visits alone during the 5 months of the dry season - the rainy season began in November.
- 450/500 patients seen each month and the number grows
- a wide range and numerous medical conditions treated
- these include a high incidence of respiratory diseases - asthma, chest infection and cancers
- skin conditions such as scabies, fungal infections and eczema have been the most numerous
- Food supplements - Likuni Phala - given to the most vulnerable to help combat the silent killer of malnutrition: pregnant women and under 5s.
- 114 cases of nutritional concern were recorded.
- a local and innovative partnership forged between the mobile clinic, Mzuzu Rotary and Eyesight Universal has brought eyecare and glasses to the villagers.
- purchase of care and diagnostic equipment
- participation in a Polio Prevention Campaign.
- registration with the Medical Council of Malawi necessary for our continuation.
- each trip costs about £620

You have enabled the treatment to be more comprehensive and professional. In additional eye tests and glasses are now being offered on clinic visits to Chamalala.

In mid January it was reported by the BBC that Malawi's energy regulator has hiked petrol prices by more than 40% marking the second time fuel costs have gone up in four months. This impacts significantly on the running cost of the clinic. Fuel is a very large expense and it increases the costs of drugs too.

Equipment Shortage: A lack of dedicated screening hinders patients' privacy and medicine dispensing tables hinders what the team call the 'clinical flow' of patients.

I have asked Dr John Chipolombwe to send him the unit cost of folding screens and dispensing tables but is not sure when these may arrive. Dr John was discharged a week ago from hospital following major back surgery and has to wear a neck brace for 6 weeks. He is recovering but it all may take a little time.

Thank you all again and God bless all our efforts going forward.
+ Christopher

EcoTip for March: Take part in a local litter pick or beach clean during **The Great British Spring Clean (Friday 13-Sunday 29 March)**, the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Litter picking benefits the environment by removing rubbish that can be hazardous for wildlife and helps bring people together. See if there's a litter pick in your local area or consider organising your own - after church on Sunday or with a youth group for example. Pray for your local area as you do the litter pick and ask God for opportunities to share why you are doing it. Find out more and pledge to pick up a bag at <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/our-work/eliminating-litter/great-british-spring-clean> or search for "Great British Spring Clean". But don't wait for the date - let's actively look to protect our environment on a daily basis.

Peter and Mary Smith: You'll be sorry to hear that both Peter and Mary Smith, long-time members of St Mary's, have died. Their daughter Annette wrote to us to say: *"My father passed away in June 2025 and my mother, this year on 12th February. They had attended St Mary's weekly since they moved to the parish in 1957, up until Covid. In January '25, and in failing health, we moved them to be near my older sister in the Isle of Wight. It had been my father's dearest wish to live there, and he had a good few months of seeing the sea and reliving happier times there...Given their long association with St Mary's, we would like to arrange a memorial service for them on **Friday 1st May at 11:00.**"*

I'm sure you join me in sending sincere condolences to all the family, and if you knew Peter and Mary then please do consider coming to this special service when we will give thanks for their lives and their friendship as part of our Christian family and community here. *Adrian*

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones 07919 262 399
adrian.jones@zoho.com (rest day normally Friday)

Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjadje *****
***** (rest day normally Friday)

Revd Aphro McCullough **** *

Revd Janet Gasper **** *

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Churchwardens:
David Hunt **** *
Tina Jarvis **** *

churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Knighton Benefice Magazine: Nigel Siesage
stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com

FOR THE NEWSLETTER: Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by noon on Thursday to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Don't forget to visit the St. Guthlac's Facebook page and website <https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk>

Newsletters on Line

Both St Guthlac's and St Mary's current and backdated newsletters are available online.

St Guthlac's <https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk>
St Mary's <https://www.stmarysknighton.co.uk>

**ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH
HOLBROOK ROAD LE2 3LF**



10.30 am Friday 3rd April 2026

**The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the
Cross
By Joseph Haydn**

**With a sequence of poems on the Seven Last Words
by Richard Gill**

**University of Leicester
String Quartet**

ALL WELCOME